

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 FEA-02 OPIC-12 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 OMB-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 DRC-01 /254 W

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R 171651Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6148

UNCLAS PARIS 1475

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, FR

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER MESSMER ON ADAPTATION TO THE FUTURE

1. IN SPEECH, FOLLOWED BY QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD, GIVEN AT DINNER ORGANIZED BY FINANCIAL DAILY "LES ECHOS", PRIME MINISTER MESSMER MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:
2. MODIFICATION OF TERMS OF TRADE IN FAVOR OF PRODUCERS OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS (NOT ONLY PETROLEUM) IS IRREVERSIBLE. FRANCE AND OTHERS MUST ADAPT, PROCEEDING WITH "ECONOMIC DECOLONIZATION".
3. NEW RELATIONS BETWEEN PRODUCER AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES SHOULD BE BASED ON AGREEMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES, WHICH SHOULD GUARANTEE QUALITY, QUANTITY AND PRICE. HE MENTIONED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS - CEREALS, SUGAR, OILSEEDS AND CAKES AS WELL AS PETROLEUM. HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHETHER SUCH AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL.
4. SPECIAL CREDITS AND AID MAY BE PROVIDED FOR EXPORT-DIRECTED RESEARCH. THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT COMMENT ON THE QUESTION OF DIRECT AID TO EXPORTERS.

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4. THE NAIROBI UNDERSTANDINGS ARE OBSOLETE, BUT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE

TO PREDICT THE OUTLINE OF A NEW MONETARY SYSTEM. "FRANCE HAS NEVER RENOUNCED ITS VIEW THAT GOLD SHOULD BE THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL RESERVE UNIT."

5. MAJOR OIL COMPANIES WILL NO LONGER CONTROL THE DISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM, OR ITS PRICE. THESE PROBLEMS CAN ONLY BE SOLVED BY STATES, BILATERALLY OR MULTILATERALLY. OIL COMPANIES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED EXCESSIVE PROFITS ON PETROLEUM IN PIPELINE BEFORE PRICE RISES ANNOUNCED. A TAX OF SIX FRANCS PER TON IMPORTED WILL PREVENT THIS.

6. ARAB CAPITAL CAN BE INVESTED AT HOME IN THOSE STATES WHERE IT IS POSSIBLE; MAJOR CONSUMER COUNTRIES CAN BALANCE PAYMENTS BY PROVIDING EQUIPMENT. OTHERS WILL HAVE TO INVEST OUTSIDE; THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE HANDLED IN MULTILATERAL OR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS- WHICH SHOULD ALSO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF "FLOATING CAPITAL".STONE

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Message Attributes

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